

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of distributing program information over a network to a terminal apparatus, comprising:

managing a ~~pre-distributed~~ plurality of elemental information associated with an accumulated program file previously provided to a terminal apparatus for configuring program scenes at the terminal apparatus, the accumulated program file comprising a plurality of different character control and background elemental information;

specifying a plurality of character control and background elemental information associated with the accumulated program file for configuring a desired program scene from athe plurality of different character control and background elemental information for configuring program scenes of the accumulated program file stored in the terminal apparatus;

generating a transmitting program file comprising terminal control information for configuring the desired program scene by combining the specified plurality of character control and background elemental information; and

distributing the transmitting program file~~terminal control information~~ to the terminal apparatus.

2. (currently amended) The program information distribution method according to claim 1, further comprising:

specifying a plurality of character control and background elemental information associated with the accumulated program file for configuring a plurality of scenes of a desired program from the plurality of different character control and background elemental information for configuring program scenes of the accumulated program file stored in the terminal apparatus;

generating the transmitting program file comprising terminal control information for configuring the plurality of scenes of the desired program by combining the specified plurality of character control and background elemental information;

arranging the terminal control information for configuring the plurality of scenes of the desired program according to a broadcasting order of the plurality of scenes; and

distributing the transmitting program file ~~terminal control information~~ to the terminal apparatus.

3. (currently amended) The program information distribution method according to claim 1, further comprising:

acquiring other elemental information for configuring program scenes that are not stored in the terminal apparatus; and

distributing the acquired other elemental information and the terminal control information to the terminal apparatus for configuring the desired program scene by combining the other and the specified plurality of character control and background elemental information.

4. (currently amended) An apparatus for distributing program information over a network to a terminal apparatus, comprising:

a managing unit operable to manage a ~~pre-distributed~~ plurality of elemental information associated with an accumulated program file previously provided to a terminal apparatus for configuring program scenes;

an elemental information specifying unit operable to specify character control and background elemental information associated with the accumulated program file for

configuring a desired program scene from at the plurality of different character control and background elemental information for configuring program scenes of the accumulated program file stored in the terminal apparatus;

a terminal control information generating unit operable to generate a transmitting program file comprising terminal control information for configuring the desired program scene by combining the specified character control and background elemental information; and

a distributing unit operable to distribute the transmitting program file terminal control information to the terminal apparatus.

5. (currently amended) The program information distribution apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

the elemental information specifying unit is operable to specify character control and background elemental information associated with the accumulated program file for configuring a plurality of scenes of a desired program from the plurality of different character control and background elemental information of the accumulated program file stored in the terminal apparatus; and

the terminal control information generating unit is operable to generate a transmitting program file comprising terminal control information for configuring the plurality of scenes of the desired program by combining the specified plurality of character control and background elemental information, and to arrange the terminal control information for configuring the plurality of scenes of the desired program according to a broadcasting order of the plurality of scenes.

6. (currently amended) The program information distribution apparatus according to claim 4, further comprising:

an elemental information acquiring unit operable to acquire other elemental information for configuring program scenes that ~~is~~are not previously stored in the terminal apparatus;

wherein the distributing unit is operable to distribute the acquired elemental information and the terminal control information to the terminal apparatus for configuring the desired program scene by combining the other and the specified plurality of character control and background elemental information.

7. (currently amended) A program configuration method, comprising:

storing a plurality of elemental information as an accumulated program file~~at least~~ for configuring program scenes, the accumulated program file comprising a plurality of different character control and background elemental information;

receiving a transmitting program file comprising predetermined control information distributed via a network;

selecting character control and background elemental information specified by the predetermined control information from the stored plurality of character control and background elemental information;

configuring a program scene by combining the selected character control and background elemental information according to the predetermined control information; and

outputting the configured program scene to a monitor.

8. (currently amended) The program configuration method according to claim 7, further comprising:

receiving other elemental information for configuring program scenes along with the predetermined control information, the other elemental information being different

from the stored plurality of character control and background elemental information; and

configuring a program scene by combining the other elemental information with the selected character control and background elemental information.

9. (currently amended) A software running apparatus which runs program configuration software, the program configuration software comprising:

storing a plurality of elemental information as an accumulated program file ~~at least~~ for configuring program scenes, the accumulated program file comprising a plurality of different character control and background elemental information;

receiving a transmitting program file comprising predetermined control information distributed via a network;

selecting character control and background elemental information specified by the predetermined control information from the stored plurality of character control and background elemental information;

configuring a program scene by combining the selected character control and background elemental information according to the predetermined control information; and

outputting the configured program scene to a monitor.

10. (currently amended) The software running apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the program configuration software further comprises:

receiving other elemental information for configuring program scenes along with the predetermined control information, the other elemental information being different from the stored plurality of character control and background elemental information; and

configuring a program scene by combining the other elemental information with the selected character control and background elemental information.

11. (currently amended) A program distribution system, comprising:

a program information distribution apparatus; and
a terminal apparatus linked to the program information distribution apparatus by a network, the terminal apparatus storing a plurality of elemental information as an accumulated program file~~at least~~ for configuring program scenes, the accumulated program file comprising a plurality of different character control and background elemental information;

the program information distribution apparatus being operable to manage a ~~pre-distributed~~ plurality of elemental information associated with the accumulated program file for configuring program scenes at the terminal apparatus; to specify character control and background elemental information associated with the accumulated program file for configuring a desired program scene from the plurality of different character control and background elemental information stored in the terminal apparatus; to generate a transmitting program file comprising terminal control information for configuring the desired program scene by combining the specified character control and background elemental information; and to distribute the transmitting program file ~~terminal control information~~ to the terminal apparatus;

the terminal apparatus being operable to receive the ~~terminal~~transmitting program file comprising control information distributed by the program information distribution apparatus; to select character control and background elemental information specified by the ~~terminal~~ control information from the stored plurality of character control and background

elemental information; to configure a program scene by combining the selected character control and background elemental information according to the terminal control information; and to output the configured program scene to a monitor.

12. (currently amended) The program distribution system according to claim 11, wherein

the program information distribution apparatus is operable to specify character control and background elemental information associated with the accumulated program file for configuring a plurality of scenes of a desired program from the plurality of different character control and background elemental information stored in the terminal apparatus; to generate the transmitting program file comprising terminal control information for configuring the plurality of scenes of the desired program by combining the specified plurality of character control and background elemental information; and to arrange the terminal control information for configuring the plurality of scenes of the desired program according to a broadcasting order of the plurality of scenes.

13. (currently amended) The program distribution system according to claim 11, wherein

the program information distribution apparatus is operable to acquire other elemental information for configuring program scenes that ~~is~~are not previously stored in the terminal apparatus; and to distribute the acquired other elemental information and the terminal control information to the terminal apparatus for configuring the desired program scene by combining the other and the specified plurality of character control and background elemental information.

14. (currently amended) The program distribution system according to claim 13, wherein

the terminal apparatus is operable to receive other elemental information for configuring program scenes along with the terminal control information, the other elemental information being different from the stored plurality of character control and background elemental information; and to configure a program scene by combining the other elemental information with the selected character control and background elemental information.

15. (currently amended) A computer-readable recording medium recorded with program configuration software, the program configuration software comprising:

a plurality of elemental information as an accumulated program file~~at least~~ for configuring program scenes, the accumulated program file comprising a plurality of different character control and background elemental information;

receiving a transmitting program file comprising predetermined control information distributed via a network;

selecting character control and background elemental information specified by the predetermined control information from the plurality character control and background of elemental information for configuring program scenes;

configuring a program scene by combining the selected character control and background elemental information according to the predetermined control information; and

outputting the configured program scene to a monitor.

16. (currently amended) The computer-readable recording medium according to claim 15, wherein the program configuring software further comprises:

receiving other elemental information for configuring program scenes along with the predetermined control information, the other elemental information being different from the plurality of character control and background elemental information at least for configuring program scenes; and

configuring a program scene by combining the other elemental information with the selected character control and background elemental information.